AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- 1. (Currently Amended) A network system providing integration, comprising:
 - a client computer;
 - a server;
 - a server-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the server;
 - a PKI-Bridge providing an interface between the server and the server-side cryptographic function;
 - a remote access switch providing an interface between the client computer and the server;
 - a client-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the client computer;
 - a dial-up client providing dialing services to access the remote access switch; and
 - a custom script dynamically linked library providing an interface between the dial-up client and the client-side cryptographic function, wherein
 - the server-side cryptographic function generates a challenge string,
 - the client-side cryptographic function generates a signed response string in response to the challenge string,
 - the custom script dynamically linked library encodes and divides the signed response string to obtain a plurality of packets,
 - the PKI-Bridge combines and decodes the plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed signed response string, and
 - the server-side cryptographic function verifies the reconstructed signed response string.
- 2. (Previously Amended) The network system of claim 1, further comprising:
 - a security device holding authentication information; and
 - a security device reader attached to the client computer for reading the security device.

3. (Original) The network system of claim 2, wherein a certificate is stored on the security device.

- 4. (Original) The network system of claim 2, wherein the security device is a smart card.
- (Original) The network system of claim 1, further comprising:a directory service accessed by the server-side cryptographic function.
- 6. (Original) The network system of claim 5, wherein the directory service is lightweight directory access protocol compliant.
- 7. (Original) The network system of claim 1, wherein the client-side cryptographic function and the server-side cryptographic function employ the same cryptographic scheme.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The network system of claim 1, wherein the server-side cryptographic function uses a random number generator to generate [[a]] the challenge string.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The network system of claim 1, wherein a client-side cryptographic function uses a random number generator to generate [[a]] the signed response string.
- 10. (Cancelled)
- 11. (Cancelled)
- 12. (Cancelled)
- 13. (Original) The network system of claim 1, wherein the dial-up client operates in terminal mode.
- 14. (Currently Amended) A network system providing integration, comprising: a client computer;
 - a server;
 - a server-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the server;

a PKI-Bridge providing an interface between the server and the server-side cryptographic function;

- a remote access switch providing an interface between the client computer and the server;
- a client-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the client computer;
- a dial-up client providing dialing services to access the remote access switch;
- a custom script dynamically linked library providing an interface between the dial-up client and the client-side cryptographic function;
- a security device holding authentication information;
- a security device reader attached to the client computer for reading the security device; and
- a directory service accessed by the server-side cryptographic function, wherein

the server-side cryptographic function generates a challenge string,

- the client-side cryptographic function generates a signed response string in response to the challenge string,
- the custom script dynamically linked library encodes and divides the signed response string to obtain a plurality of packets.
- the PKI-Bridge combines and decodes the plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed signed response string, and
- the server-side cryptographic function verifies the reconstructed signed response string.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A client computer comprising:
 - a dial-up client providing dialing services to the client computer;
 - a client-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the client computer; and
 - a custom script dynamically linked library providing an interface between the dial-up client and the client-side cryptographic function, wherein
 - the client-side cryptographic function generates a signed response string, and
 the custom script dynamically linked library encodes and divides the signed
 response string to obtain a plurality of packets.

16. (Previously Amended) The client computer of claim 15, further comprising:
a security device reader attached to the client computer for reading a security device.

- 17. (Currently Amended) The client computer of claim [[15]] 16, wherein [[a]] the security device is a smart card.
- 18. (Previously Amended) The client computer of claim 15, wherein the custom script dynamically linked library comprises a SDLogin component and a SDSetupDial component.
- 19. (Original) The client computer of claim 15, wherein the dial-up client automates the authentication process using a hidden terminal operating in terminal mode.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A client computer comprising:
 - a dial-up client providing dialing services to the client computer;
 - a client-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the client computer;
 - a custom script dynamically linked library providing an interface between the dial-up client and the client-side cryptographic function; and
 - a security device reader attached to the client computer for reading a security device, wherein

the client-side cryptographic function generates a signed response string, and
the custom script dynamically linked library encodes and divides the signed
response string to obtain a plurality of packets.

- 21. (Currently Amended) A server comprising:
 - a server-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the server; and
 - a PKI-Bridge providing an interface between the server and the server-side cryptographic function, wherein

the server-side cryptographic function generates a challenge string,

the PKI-Bridge combines and decodes a plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed signed response string which is a response to the challenge string, and

the server-side cryptographic function verifies the reconstructed signed response string.

- 22. (Original) The server of claim 21, further comprising:a directory service accessed by the server-side cryptographic function.
- 23. (Currently Amended) A server comprising:
 - a server-side cryptographic function providing cryptographic services located on the server;
 - a PKI-Bridge providing an interface between the server and the server-side cryptographic function; and
 - a directory service accessed by the server-side cryptographic function, wherein the server-side cryptographic function generates a challenge string,
 - the PKI-Bridge combines and decodes a plurality of packets to obtain a

 reconstructed signed response string which is a response to the challenge
 string, and
 - the server-side cryptographic function verifies the reconstructed signed response string.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method of integrating via a dial-up interface, comprising: sending session initiation information from a dial-up client to a PKI-Bridge;

checking session initiation information by the PKI-Bridge;

generating a challenge string by a server-side cryptographic function;

forwarding the challenge string to a custom script dynamically linked library;

forwarding the challenge string to a client-side cryptographic function from the custom script dynamically linked library;

utilizing a private key from a security device;

generating a response string in response to the challenge string;

signing the response string with the private key of a dial-in user to obtain a signed response string;

forwarding [[a]] the signed response string to the custom script dynamically linked library;

encoding the signed response string to obtain an encoded signed response string;

dividing the encoded signed response string into a plurality of packets;

forwarding the plurality of packets to the PKI-Bridge;

combining the plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed encoded signed response string;

decoding the reconstructed encoded signed response string to obtain a reconstructed signed response string;

reconstructing the signed response string from packets;

forwarding [[a]] the reconstructed signed response string to the server-side cryptographic function;

obtaining a public key of the dial-in user; and

verifying the reconstructed signed response string based on the public key using the server-side cryptographic function.

- 25. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising: reading the security device by a security device reader.
- 26. (Cancelled)
- 27. (Cancelled)
- 28. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising: forwarding the challenge string to the dial-up client; and forwarding the challenge string to the PKI-Bridge.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising: forwarding the plurality of packets from the custom script dynamically linked library.
- 30. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the security device is a smart card.
- 31. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the session initiation information comprises version information and a distinguished name.
- 32. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the public key is stored on a directory service.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the directory service is lightweight directory access protocol compliant.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of integrating via a dial-up interface, comprising:

sending session initiation information from a dial-up client to a PKI-Bridge;

checking session initiation information by the PKI-Bridge;

generating a challenge string by a server-side cryptographic function;

forwarding the challenge string to a custom script dynamically linked library;

forwarding the challenge string to a client-side cryptographic function from the custom script dynamically linked library;

utilizing a private key from a security device;

generating a response string in response to the challenge string;

signing the response string with the private key of a dial-in user to obtain a signed response string;

forwarding [[a]] the signed response string to the custom script dynamically linked library;

encoding the signed response string to obtain an encoded signed response string;

dividing the encoded signed response string into a plurality of packets;

forwarding the plurality of packets to the PKI-Bridge;

combining the plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed encoded signed response string;

decoding the reconstructed encoded signed response string to obtain a reconstructed signed response string;

reconstructing the signed response string from packets;

forwarding [[a]] the reconstructed signed response string to the server-side cryptographic function;

obtaining a public key of the dial-in user; and

verifying the reconstructed signed response string based on the public key using the server-side cryptographic function.

reading the security device by a security card reader;

encoding the signed response string;

decoding the signed response string;

forwarding the challenge string to the dial-up client; forwarding the challenge string to the PKI-Bridge; and forwarding the plurality of packets from the custom script dynamically linked library.

35. (Currently Amended) An apparatus of integrating via a dial-up interface, comprising: means for sending session initiation information from a dial-up client to a PKI-Bridge; means for checking session initiation information by the PKI-Bridge; means for generating a challenge string by a server-side cryptographic function; means for forwarding the challenge string to a custom script dynamically linked library;

means for forwarding the challenge string to a client-side cryptographic function from the custom script dynamically linked library;

means for utilizing_a private key from a security device;

means for generating a response string in response to the challenge string;

means for signing the response string with the private key of a dial-in user to obtain a signed response string;

means for forwarding [[a]] the signed response string to the custom script dynamically linked library;

means for encoding the signed response string to obtain an encoded signed response string;

means for dividing the encoded signed response string into a plurality of packets;

means for forwarding the plurality of packets to the PKI-Bridge;

means for combining the plurality of packets to obtain a reconstructed encoded signed response string;

means for <u>decoding the reconstructed encoded signed response string to obtain a reconstructed signed response string;</u>

means for reconstructing the signed response string from packets;

means for forwarding [[a]] the reconstructed signed response string to the server-side cryptographic function;

means for obtaining a public key of the dial-in user; and

means for verifying the reconstructed signed response string based on the public key using the server-side cryptographic function.